

PATENT

SN-US010023

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#12
P. Allen
11/20/03



In re Application of

Koji TAKIKURA

Serial No.: 10/080,412

Filed: February 25, 2002

For: WATER-SEALING
COMPONENT ASSEMBLY

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: Patent Art Unit: 3654
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: Examiner: Evan H. Langdon
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITH CERTIFICATION

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97(b) and 1.98, Applicant brings the attached reference to the Examiner's attention and requests that it be considered and made of record in this application. Also attached is a completed PTO-1449 form.


Since this Information Disclosure Statement is filed together with a Request for Continued Examination, *no fee is believed to be required in view of the above certification.* However, Applicant authorize the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to charge payment of the Petition fee Under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) *if required* and any other fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836.

The Japanese Patent Application Publication 2000-41543 discloses a fishing reel in which water-repellency treatment is applied to surfaces of the path through which water invades, such that these surfaces are protected from corrosion. More specifically, water repellency treatment is applied to surfaces of internal components such as bearings for spool, bearings for the handle, and reverse-prevention gears. The water-repellency treatment herein means applying powders of fluoride and/or silicone compounds. The Japanese Patent Application Publication 2000-41543 also states that the water-repellency treatment can also be applied to a gap between the reel and the rotational frame to prevent invasion of water inside the rotational frame.

Applicant believes, however, that the Japanese Patent Application Publication 2000-41543 does not disclose or suggest the use of centrifugal force in prevention of water

invasion, as required by claims 1, 12, and 15 as now amended. Also, the Japanese Patent Application Publication 2000-41543 does not disclose or suggest the idea of alleviating the impairment of rotational balance due to sealing members, which is the object of the present invention. (See Declaration of Mr. Koji Takikura attached hereto.) Thus, Applicant believes that the Japanese Patent Application Publication 2000-41543 does not disclose or suggest the arrangement of the present invention, whether taken singularly or in any combination.

Respectfully submitted,


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